CONTENTS

Preface	3
Introduction	7
Chapter 1: Pupil Assessment in Europe – The Context and Emergence of National Testing	11
1.1. Brief overview of the main forms of pupil assessment	11
1.2. Historical background of national testing	14
1.3. Changing policy frameworks behind national testing	18
Chapter 2: Aims and Organisation of National Testing	23
2.1. Aims of national testing in Europe	23
2.2. Organisation and characteristics of national tests	25
2.3. Players and bodies involved	42
Chapter 3: Uses and Impact of National Test Results	49
3.1. Use of national test results with regard to individual pupils	49
3.2. Use of national test results to inform school policy	52
3.3. Use of test results by local authorities	57
3.4. Use of test results by national governments or top-level education authorities	59
3.5. Surveys and debates	60
Key Issues	63
Glossary	67
References	69
Table of Figures	71
Annexes	73
Acknowledgements	105